

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 160196  
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DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:DJDONCHI:NLS  
APPROVED BY EUR/NE - JJCROWLEY, JR.  
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UNCLAS STATE 160196

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, NO

SUBJECT: CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE - FRYDENLUND VISIT

FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE FOR THE VISIT OF FOREIGN  
MINISTER FRYDENLUND:

Q: WHY IS THE NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER COMING TO  
WASHINGTON AT THIS TIME?

A: SECRETARY VANCE INVITED THE NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER  
TO WASHINGTON FOR A REVIEW OF BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL  
ISSUES. THERE IS NO SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE IN THE TIMING  
OF THE VISIT.

Q: ARE THERE ANY PARTICULAR PROBLEMS IN US-NORWEGIAN  
RELATIONS THAT WILL BE DISCUSSED?  
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A: THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WHICH  
CONTINUE TO BE EXCELLENT.

Q: IS THE UNITED STATES CONCERNED ABOUT SOVIET-NORWEGIAN  
RELATIONS AND THE SITUATION ON THE NORTHERN FLANK?

A: WE SHARE WITH NORWAY AND THE SOVIET UNION AN INTEREST  
IN KEEPING TENSIONS LOW IN THE NORTHERN REGION. THE  
UNITED STATES REMAINS COMMITTED TO THE SECURITY OF  
NATO'S NORTHERN FLANK AND WE NATURALLY STAND READY TO  
SUPPORT AND ASSIST OUR NORWEGIAN NATO ALLY WHENEVER  
POSSIBLE.

Q: IS SPITZBERGEN A LIKELY TOPIC OF CONVERSATION DURING  
THE NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT?

A: WE WILL BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS ANYTHING THAT OUR  
NORWEGIAN FRIENDS CHOOSE TO RAISE. WITH RESPECT  
TO SPITZBERGEN, WE PERCEIVE NO PRESSING PROBLEMS. THE  
US LOOKS TO NORWAY AS THE SOVEREIGN AUTHORITY ON THE  
ARCHIPELAGO UNDER THE 1920 TREATY AND THE GUARANTOR

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OF THE RIGHTS OF ALL 42 SIGNATORIES.

Q: HAS THE ADMINISTRATIONS' DECISION ON OIL CARGO  
PREFERENCE DISTURBED THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT?

A: NORWAY CERTAINLY HOPED THE DECISION WOULD GO AGAINST  
CARGO PREFERENCE. THE REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY NORWAY  
AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS WERE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED BY THE  
ADMINISTRATION, BUT BECAUSE OF DOMESTIC EMPLOYMENT  
CONSIDERATIONS, IT WAS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT LIMITED OIL  
CARGO PREFERENCE. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE MODEST  
LEVEL OF CARGO PREFERENCE INVOLVED WILL ADVERSELY AFFECT  
THE CURRENT WORLD TANKER SURPLUS. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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